



Office of Environmental Justice

DEP Agricultural Advisory Board

October 25, 2018



Tom Wolf, Governor

Patrick McDonnell, Secretary

DEP Mission

To protect Pennsylvania's air, land, and water from pollution and to provide for the health and safety of its citizens through a cleaner environment. We will work as partners with individuals, organizations, governments and businesses to prevent pollution and restore our natural resources.

What is Environmental Justice?

Environmental Justice (EJ) is the **fair treatment** and **meaningful involvement** of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

History of EJ

- Civil Rights and Environmental Movements of the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s
- First National People of Color Environmental Leadership Summit held in 1991
- Executive Order 12898 issued in 1994
- Environmental Justice Act of 2017 (introduced 10/17)

History of EJ in PA

- Chester Title VI Action Filed in 1996
- DEP Environmental Justice Work Group (EJWG) created in 1999
- EJWG Report and Recommendations released in 2001
- Office of Environmental Advocate (OEA) established in 2002 and the Environmental Justice Advisory Board (EJAB) in 2004

▶ Office of Environmental Justice Goals

- **Minimizing Adverse Environmental Impacts** - All communities are not unjustly and/or disproportionately burdened with adverse environmental impacts
- **Empowering Communities** - Ensuring citizens have meaningful involvement and a voice in decision-making process
- **Fostering Economic Opportunities** - Enable environmentally responsible economic development to and within EJ communities and in some cases build collaborations and relationships with the community and industry

Visioning and Planning

- Develop protocol and data retention practices for identifying permits reviewed and addressed by OEJ through EJ Public Participation Policy and other OEJ policies
- Strengthen public participation, community engagement and environmental literacy in EJ Areas
- Strengthen capacity for OEJ to address environmental justice issues

EJ Public Participation Policy

- Created in 2004 and revised in 2018
- EJ Areas
- Enhanced public participation
- Applies to Trigger and Opt-in Permits

EJ Public Participation Policy

- Comment period in July – August 2018
- 206 Comments Received
- Comment Category Overview
 - Oil and Gas Permits/Fracking
 - EJ Areas Definition
 - General Definitions
 - Permit Process
 - Environmental Rights Amendment
 - Public Participation
 - Trigger Permit List
 - Authority of EJ Policy
 - Measurement/Consideration of Environmental Impacts



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



Office of Environmental Justice

General Comments & Questions

RA-EPOEJ@pa.gov

Nora Alwine

nalwine@pa.gov

(412) 225-7610

Allison Acevedo, Director

aacevedo@pa.gov

(484) 250-5818

John Brakeall

jbrakeall@pa.gov

(717) 265-3928